

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

Pamela Laulicht 18 Crestwood Dr. West Orange, NJ 07052 JUL 1 2 2002

...L. \$7% -3"

RE: N

MUR 5279

Bill Bradley for President, Inc.

Dear Ms. Laulicht:

On June 26, 2002, the Federal Election Commission found that there is reason to believe you violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441a(a)(3), 441f and 11 C.F.R. §§ 110.5(b), 110.4(b)(1)(iv), provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act") and Commission regulations. The Factual and Legal Analysis, which formed a basis for the Commission's finding, is attached for your information.

You may submit any factual or legal materials that you believe are relevant to the Commission's consideration of this matter. Please submit such materials to the General Counsel's Office within 15 days of your receipt of this letter. In addition, please complete and return the enclosed questionnaire within 15 days. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath. In the absence of additional information, the Commission may find probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred and proceed with conciliation.

If you are interested in pursuing pre-probable cause conciliation, you should so request in writing. See 11 C.F.R. § 111.18(d). Upon receipt of the request, the Office of the General Counsel will make recommendations to the Commission either proposing an agreement in settlement of the matter or recommending declining that pre-probable cause conciliation be pursued. The Office of the General Counsel may recommend that pre-probable cause conciliation not be entered into at this time so that it may complete its investigation of the matter. Further, the Commission will not entertain requests for pre-probable cause conciliation after briefs on probable cause have been mailed to the respondent.

Requests for extensions of time will not be routinely granted. Requests must be made in writing at least five days prior to the due date of the response and specific good cause must be demonstrated. In addition, the Office of the General Counsel ordinarily will not give extensions beyond 20 days.

If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter, please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address, and telephone number of such counsel, and authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A), unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the investigation to be made public.

For your information, we have enclosed a brief description of the Commission's procedures for handling possible violations of the Act. If you have any questions, please contact Albert Veldhuyzen or Michelle E. Abellera, the attorneys assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Karl J. Sandstrom Vice Chairman

Enclosures
Factual and Legal Analysis
Procedures
Designation of Counsel Form
Questionnaire

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

RESPONDENT:

Pamela Laulicht

MUR: 5279

I. GENERATION OF MATTER

This matter was generated by an audit of Bradley for President, Inc. ("Committee") and Theodore V. Wells, as treasurer, undertaken in accordance with 26 U.S.C. § 9038(a).

II. FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

A. Law

The Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), provides that no person shall make a contribution in the name of another person or knowingly permit his name to be used to effect such a contribution, and no person shall knowingly accept a contribution made by one person in the name of another. 2 U.S.C. § 441f. See also 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b)(1).

B. Contribution in the Name of Another

The Committee received 40 business checks totaling \$40,000 on June 22, 1999. The checks were written on the accounts of 40 different business entities and attributed to 39 individuals. A contribution schedule provided by the Committee listed all the contributors as partners in various "partnerships;" the schedule listed the names of the partnerships, the contributing partner and the address of the partnership. All of the partnerships have the same address: 26 Columbia Turnpike, Florham Park, NJ. This address is the corporate headquarters of Kushner Companies, a business owned and chaired by Charles Kushner. Mr. Kushner has been identified as an officer/director of Riverside Park Industrial Associates.

Dun and Bradstreet reports indicate that Kushner Companies is involved in approximately 100 locations. These properties appear to be managed by partnerships or limited liability companies in which Kushner Companies is the general partner.

One of the contributions (check #2162 written for \$1,000) was attributed to Pamela

- 2 Laulicht as a partner of Riverside Park Industrial Associates. However, there is no evidence to
- 3 confirm that Ms. Laulicht is a partner in Riverside Park Industrial Associates or that Ms.
- Laulicht's individual partnership account was charged.² The Commission attempted to verify the status of Riverside Park Industrial Associates through Dun and Bradstreet and the New Jersey
- 6 Secretary of State. There was no evidence that Ms. Laulicht was a "partner" of Riverside Park
- 7 Industrial Associates. However, research by this office revealed that Ms. Laulicht is a relative of
- 8 Mr. Kushner.
- An examination of all 40 contribution checks indicates that they were mass-produced and originated from a single corporate source. The accountholder's name, bank routing numbers and other notations all appear to be printed in the same type as the payee and amount information.
- All but three checks contained the same typographical error. The fundraiser's name, Sapoch, was
- spelled incorrectly in the payee line ("Japoch"). All of the checks were drawn on accounts held
- at two different banks, Norcrown Bank and Valley National Bank. Norcrown Bank is part of the
- 15 Kushner group of businesses. Lastly, all the checks appear to have been signed by the same
- person. Although not legible, the signatures on the checks appear very consistent.³ Given the
- 17 likelihood that the checks were signed by Mr. Kushner and originated from Kushner Companies
- and given the absence of evidence that the partners of the various partnerships intended to make
- contributions, the Office of General Counsel believes that Kushner Companies and/or Mr.
- 20 Kushner were the true source of the contributions.

The Committee sent follow-up letters to determine the eligibility of the contributions for matching funds. Only 4 of the 39 contributors replied to the Committee's request for verification. Ms. Laulicht did not reply.

A comparison of the check signatures with Mr. Kushner's signature as displayed on the Kushner Companies' website suggests that the signatures may have originated from the same person.

Given Kushner Companies and Mr. Kushner's control over Riverside Park Industrial Associates and other partnerships, Mr. Kushner's relation to Ms. Laulicht and other named contributors, and the fact that the contributions appear to be signed by the same individual, were written for the same amount, and delivered on the same day, it is likely that contributions were made in the name of another. Furthermore, Ms. Laulicht made contributions to other federal campaign committees under similar circumstances. The presence of this bundling pattern of contributions suggests that Ms. Laulicht may have allowed her name to be used to effect contributions in the name of another. Accordingly, the Commission found reason to believe that Pamela Laulicht violated 2 U.S.C. § 441f and 11 C.F.R. § 110.4(b)(1)(iv).

C. Excessive Contributions

The Act prohibits individuals from making contributions aggregating more than \$25,000 in any calendar year. 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(3). Any contribution made to a candidate with respect to a particular election, but made in a non-election year, is considered to be made during the calendar year in which the election is held. 11 C.F.R. § 110.5(c)(1)-(2). Based on a review of the campaign disclosure database, it appears that Ms. Laulicht made contributions totaling \$27,000 in 2000. Accordingly, the Commission found reason to believe that Pamela Laulicht violated 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(3) and 11 C.F.R. § 110.5(b) by making contributions in excess of her annual \$25,000 contribution limitation.



Questionnaire in Matter Under Review 5279Pamela Laulicht

Questionnaire Instructions

Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g, the Federal Election Commission is investigating contributions to the Bill Bradley for President, Inc. ("Bradley Committee") during the 2000 presidential primary election campaign. The Commission has obtained documents that appear to show that you made a \$1,000 partnership contribution to the Bradley Committee on June 16, 1999 by check number 2162. A copy of check number 2162 is attached for your review.

Please answer the following questions by checking the appropriate boxes or filling in the blank lines. Please review your answers to ensure they are accurate and complete. For all questions that call for a description or explanation, attach additional sheets if necessary. Please submit the questionnaire to the General Counsel's Office within 15 days of receipt.

1.	What is your occupat	tion?		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•		
2.	Please provide your	employer's	address.	
3.			ship contribution to the Br	adley Committee with check
		Yes		No
4.	Did you consent to t	the \$1,000 p	partnership contribution?	
		Yes		No
5.	a. When did you co	nsent to the	: \$1,000 partnership contri	ibution?
	b. How did you co		\$1,000 partnership contri	bution?

c.	Who did you con	•		
d.				
e.	When was your o	onsent acknowledged	?	
Ar	e you a partner of	Riverside Park Indust	rial Associates?	
		Yes		No
			limited partner	or a general partner of
		Limited Partner	. 🗆	General Partner
Ple	ease describe the s	tructure and status of	Riverside Park	Industrial Associates:
a.	How many limite	ed partners does River	side Park Indus	trial Associates have?
b.		_		
c.				•
	d. Ard Windian Place a.	e. When was your of What is your partner Riverside Park Indus Please describe the s a. How many limited b. Please list the lim	d. Did anyone acknowledge your consent e. When was your consent acknowledged Are you a partner of Riverside Park Indust Yes What is your partnership status? Are you a Riverside Park Industrial Associates? Limited Partner Please describe the structure and status of a. How many limited partners does River b. Please list the limited partners of River	e. When was your consent acknowledged? Are you a partner of Riverside Park Industrial Associates? Yes What is your partnership status? Are you a limited partner Riverside Park Industrial Associates? Limited Partner Please describe the structure and status of Riverside Park a. How many limited partners does Riverside Park Indus b. Please list the limited partners of Riverside Park Indus

Questionnaire- MUR 5279

	icht .
d.	When was Riverside Park Industrial Associates created?
e.	What is the relationship between Riverside Park Industrial Associates and Kushner Companies?
	ease describe your involvement and participation in Riverside Park Industrial lates:
a.	When did you become a partner of Riverside Park Industrial Associates?
b.	What was the percentage of your ownership interest when you joined Riverside Park Industrial Associates?
c.	What was the percentage of your ownership interest in Riverside Park Industrial Associates on June 16, 1999?
d.	What is the percentage of your current ownership interest in Riverside Park Industria Associates?
e.	Please list any limitation or restrictions on your use of funds in the Riverside Park Industrial Associates account.

f.	Are you emp	oloyed	by Riverside Park In	dustrial Associa	ates?
	_	3	Yes		No
g.	Are you an o	officer	of Riverside Park Inc	lustrial Associa	ites?
		.	Yes		No
h.		-	ur job title(s) and respusively and respusively.	oonsibilities as	an employee or officer of
	ow did you su mmittee?	ıbmit	your \$1,000 contribut	ion with check	number 2162 to the Bradley
	mmittee?	ize the	\$1,000 contribution Yes	with check nun	nber 2162 to the Bradley
				check number	2162 originate from a
ba	nk account the	at you	Yes		No
					2162 originate from a
pe	rsonal partner	rship i	nterest that you control Yes	ol?	No
			ntation showing that interest was charged.	your bank acco	unt was debited or your
	Does Rivers embers?	ide Pa	rk Industrial Associa	tes organize a p	political contribution plan for i
		_	Yes		No .
b.	Please descr	ribe th	e contribution plan.		

	Please list all other persons involved in the m Committee.			
-				
	Please describe in full each person's involventhe Bradley Committee.	nent in the n	naking	of your contribution to
-				
	a. Did anyone associated with Riverside Parkmake a	Industrial A	Associ	ates encourage you to
	contribution to the Bradley Committee?			
	□ Yes		No	
19.	 a. Did anyone associated with Kushner Comcontribution to the Bradley Committee? Yes 			
	b. Please list the individuals and describe the	circumstan	ces.	
20.	Are you a member of any other partnerships?			
	□ Yes		No	(If you answered "no," please proceed to question 34.)
	Please list all the partnerships, other than Riv you belong.	erside Park	Indust	rial Associates, to which
				;

22.	How long have you b	oeen a membe	r of those part	nerships?		
23.	What is your owners	hip interest in	each partners	hip?		
	What is the relations Kushner Companies?	-	hose other par	tnerships	to whi	ch you belong and
	Have you made cont partnerships?	ributions to fe	ederal committ	ees as a p	artner	of these other
		Yes			No	(If you answered "no, please proceed to question 34.)
	On a separate sheet, partnerships. Please Committee:	-		-	e as a j	partner of other
	Partnership:			Date:		Amount:
27.	a. Do the partnershi					
		Yes			No	(If you answered "no, please proceed to question 30.)
	b. Please describe the	e contribution	plan.			

28.	As a partner, did you agree to make political contributions through a plan?						
		Yes		<u> </u>	No	(If you answered "no," please proceed to question 30.)	
29.	When did you agree	to participat	e in such a plan?			·	
	For each of the above to the respective con		ns, please indicat	e how	you su	bmitted the contribution	
31.	Please list all other committees. Please						
32.	a. Did anyone asso to the federal cor		ne partnerships en	courage	e you t	o make contributions	
		Yes			No		
	b. Please list the inc	lividuals and	describe the circu	ımstano	ces.		
33.	a. Did anyone associate the federal con		ushner Companie	s encou	irage y	ou to make contributior	
		Yes			No		
	b. Please list the in	dividuals and	l describe the circ	umstan	ices.		
				 -			

34.	bonuses, reimb	ursements or	Kushner Compar favors as a conse alf of political co	quence of	de you with any payments, your contributions to or ?
		Yes			No
1	b. Please list the i	ndividuals an	d describe the cir	cumstanc	es.
35.	What is your rela	tionship to K	ushner Companie	s?	
36.	Have you ever be	en employed	by Kushner Com	panies?	
		Yes			No
37.	Please provide th	e length of yo	our employment c	or associat	tion with Kushner Companies.
38.	Kushner Compan soliciting contribution collecting and for	ies and assoc utions; sugges warding cont unctions relat	iated partnerships sting or requesting ributions. "Fundr ed to other events	"Fundrage that a coaising act	ou have participated involving aising activity" includes ontribution be made; making, ivity" also includes meetings, g the soliciting, making,
		·			

foregoing is true and correct		day of	
·	Signature:		
	Date:		
We may wish to speak with the best time during normal			phone number and tell u
	business hours for u	s to call.	·

Mail to all federal agencies in Washington, DC is irradiated against anthrax and other biological hazards. This has resulted in substantial delays in delivery. For this reason, we ask that you also fax a copy of your response to us at (202) 219-1043 or scan it and email it to Albert Veldhuyzen at aveldhuyzen@fec.gov.

If you have any questions, you may call the FEC attorneys assigned to this matter, Albert Veldhuyzen and Michelle Abellera, at (202) 694-1650 or (800) 424-9530.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.

18/212 2162	AMOUNT \$****1,000.00	
55-138/212 CHECK NO. 2162		CKMS INVESTMENT CORP.
VALLEY NATIONAL BANK 73 S. LIVINGSTON AVE LIVINGSTON, NJ 07039	ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS	Г ¬
K IND ASSOC LP, RNPIKE NJ 07932	ONE THOUSAND D	BILL BRADLEY PRES EXPL COMMITT C/O BETTY W. JAPOCH 4 HAWTHORNE AVENUE PRINCETON NJ 08540
RIVERSIDE PARK IND AS 26 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE FLORHAM PARK NJ (DATE 06/16/99	